



Press Release

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Pennsylvania Poultry Production

HARRISBURG --- The combined value of Pennsylvania poultry production in 2002 was \$596.8 million, down 14 percent from the \$690.0 million in 2001, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. Egg production accounted for 46.7 percent of the total value, broiler production was 37.8 percent of the total, turkey production accounted for 15.2 percent, and the value of mature chickens sold (excluding broilers) accounted for less than 1 percent of the total value.

Total egg production for 2002 was valued at \$279.3 million, down 8 percent from \$303.7 million one year earlier. During the year 6.52 billion eggs were produced, 2 percent less than in 2001. Prices for all eggs sold, including hatching eggs, averaged 51.4 cents per dozen during the year, compared to 54.7 cents per dozen in 2001.

Broiler production during 2002 was valued at \$225.9 million, down 21 percent from the previous year. A total of 133.2 million broilers were produced in 2002, up slightly from 2001. The average price received by producers in 2002 was 32.0 cents per pound live weight, compared to 41.0 cents per pound received a year earlier.

Turkey producers raised 9.9 million poults during 2002, up 4 percent from the previous year. The value of turkey production in 2002, at \$91.1 million, was 7 percent less than in 2001. Producers received an average of 39 cents per pound live weight during the year, down 7 cents per pound from 2001.

Mature chickens sold (excluding broilers) in 2002 were valued at \$529,000, 2 percent less than the previous year. A total of 14.7 million mature chickens were sold during the year, 2 percent less than in 2001. Prices for mature chickens averaged 1.0 cent per pound live weight, same as the previous year.

Nationally, the combined value of production from broilers, eggs and turkeys, and the value of chickens sold in 2002, was \$20.4 billion, down 15 percent from the \$24.0 billion in 2001. Of the combined total, 66 percent was from broilers, over 21 percent from eggs, over 13 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from other chickens.

The value of broilers produced during 2002 was \$13.4 billion, down 20 percent from 2001. The total number of broilers produced in 2002 was 8.59 billion, up 2 percent from 2001. The 2002 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 30.5 cents per pound, compared to 39.3 cents per pound in 2001.

Value of egg production in 2002 was \$4.26 billion, down 4 percent from the \$4.45 billion in 2001. Egg production totaled 86.7 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the 85.7 billion eggs produced in 2001. In 2002, eggs averaged 59.0 cents per dozen, compared with 62.2 cents in 2001.

The value of turkeys produced during 2002 was \$2.70 billion, down 3 percent from the \$2.79 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2002 totaled 7.41 billion pounds live weight, compared with 7.15 billion pounds in 2001. The prices received by producers during 2002 averaged 36.5 cents per pound live weight, compared with 39.0 cents a year earlier.

The value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 2002 was \$49.0 million, up 6 percent from the \$46.4 million a year ago. Prices averaged 4.7 cents per pound, compared with 4.5 cents in 2001.